WORLD / A28
6 world powers call for new sanctions vs Iran

ACROSS / A20
Manobo evacuees urge stop to AFP operations



WORLD / A27
Chinese beauty stands tall as Miss World

NEWS / A2
RP faces water crisis, says ADB report

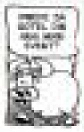
METRO / A25
Dogfight arena in Rizal raided

After tumult at home, GMA prays at Lourdes

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, December 3, 2007 | 11 sections | Vol. 23 | No. 3 | P18

Barias' wish: Boxing bout with Trillanes



ABS-CBN role probed

TV exec to mutiny probers: Show us what you have

THE GOVERNMENT YESterday widened its probe of the failed mutiny at the Peninsula Manila hotel, even as a senior official raised questions on what role, if any, media giant ABS-CBN network played in the crisis.



Nonito, 'Boom Boom' punish foes



President hostage to guns of gov't troops

ANALYSIS

JDV: Revolt no cause for alarm

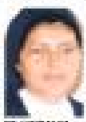
Don't rile media, GMA tells Cabinet, PNP, AFP

Storyteller Karylle also plays 'Cat'



ACTRESS-SINGER Karylle regales children with the adventures of "The Cat in the Hat" in a storytelling session of the Inquirer's Read-Along program at the National Book Store on Quezon Avenue.

RP nun offers evidence of Brazilian's sainthood



SR. LINDALVA Justo de Oliveira

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

4 5 10 16 17 28

P15,929,461.80

RP faces water crisis – ADB

Unless things are turned around, river, groundwater systems will fail by 2025

WHAT'S INSIDE

THE PHILIPPINES' WATER RESOURCES ARE FAST deteriorating with rapid urbanization, with only about 33 percent of river systems still suitable as a supply source and up to 58 percent of groundwater now contaminated, a new Asian Development Bank study said.

Untreated discharges

Danger signals

Pasig one of most polluted

Investments needed

Freedom sought for sick, oldest female detainee



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marie france

We're back, says Manila Pen

RP needs 'servant leaders' for moral revolution–Puno

Protesters want Smith in RP jail

The Daily Gospel

Storyteller Karylle also plays 'Cat'

Body painting

Better than TV

She loves Shakespeare

Wanted: Local authors

Anniversary read-along

RP nun offers evidence …



DURAN



Answered prayers

First stage

Servant of the poor

A martyr

One of the fastest

PAF: Search for jet off Kalayaan won't stop

SAYING NO PLANE or pilot was left unfound, the Philippine Air Force yesterday dispatched another search plane over the waters of the Kalayaan Island group where a jet and its pilot disappeared last week.

"We will not stop the search. That's how we do it. Whenever a plane or pilot get lost, we never stop until we find them," said PAF spokesperson Lt. Col. Epifanio Pestaño Jr.

A PAF Fokker arrived at Antonio Bautista Air Base in Puerto Princesa City yesterday to augment the planes and ships looking for the S-211 trainer jet that disappeared on Nov. 26 while flying in tandem with a similar plane and searching for a missing fishing boat, said Maj. Federico Ferrer Jr., base information chief.

In the two-seater were Capt. Gaston Mercado Jr. and Capt. Bonifacio Inciso III.

A United States maritime patrol plane also searched the Kalayaan waters but found no trace of the aircraft.

The S-211 is one of five in the PAF fleet. *Tarra Quismundo*

Nonito, 'Boom Boom' punish foes



THE PHILIPPINES' AJ "Bazooka" Banal floors Jeremy "Bandido" Soto of Mexico.

UP grads called to pre-bash fete

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (UP) graduates before 1960 and in 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978 and 1983, [illegible] diamond, emerald, golden, sapphire, ruby, jade, pearl and silver jubilarians, respectively, are urged to attend a pre-centennial meeting and Christmas get-together on Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. at Bahay ng Alumni, Diliman campus.

UP Alumni Association president [illegible] "[illegible]" [illegible] said the event will [illegible] of UP Centennial Year beginning January 2008.

A highlight of the year will be the UPAA Grand Centennial Year Homecoming and [illegible] on June 21 at Araneta Coliseum.

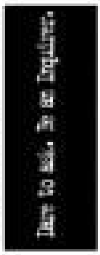
[illegible] said all UP jubilarians could have their photos taken at a discount at any Kodak Express or Kameraworld store [illegible] for the UPAA 2008 Centennial Yearbook.

Alumni may contact the UPAA office at tel. 920-6868, 920-6871, 920-6875, fax 920-6027 or e-mail [illegible]

Senate restores RP debt payments

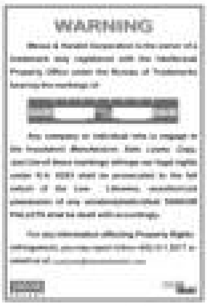

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NEW

ABS-CBN role probed; TV exec to mutiny probers: Show

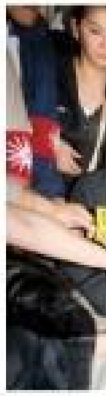
'It was our job'

A minor miracle

'People of prominence'

Spontaneous or not?

Rizal room



Activist priest's ma appea

By TJ Burgonio

Peace mission

w us what you have



Still no word from Faeldon, says lawyer

P1-million bounty

Writ of amparo

als to Manila archbishop

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Opinion

Muchachos

APPARENTLY, JUSTICE SECRETARY AND RESIDENT Cabinet curmudgeon Raul Gonzalez is not the only one who thinks of Australian lawyer and New York law professor Philip Alston as a "mere muchacho," a lowly errand boy of the United Nations. The chief of staff of the Armed Forces, Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, shares the same contempt for the UN special rapporteur.

EDITORIAL

After Alston submitted to the UN Human Rights Council his final report on "extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions" in the Philippines last week, Esperon belittled Alston's mission, calling it "half-baked."

"I wish Mr. Alston had better and more complete sources," he said. "He was here for 10 days and suddenly he's an expert in human rights in the Philippines, much more an expert in insurgency in the Philippines."

Note the sly use of "suddenly," as though the very idea behind the UN's special missions—almost by definition short-term in nature and dependent on the quality of host-country sources—were somehow invalid. [illegible]

[illegible]



Trillanes revolts are warnings to gov't

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

Bitter cold

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Sumilao: Shattered dreams, broken pledges

Sounding Board



Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

Paradise lost

Kris-Crossing Mindanao



War freaks

The Long View



Manuel L. Quezon III



Anthony, I'll see you at the 'Nineteenth'

Reveille



Ramon J. Farolan

Physicians' fears unfounded

LETTERS

Atienza's bold anti-logging move in Samar

Why many Filipinos are indifferent to pardon

Busted Sta. Mesa pipe still unattended

Still working, still taxed

President hostage to guns of gov't troops

RP pattern

Past military interventions

Delusions

Role of media

Police brutality

Still smoldering

After tumult at home, GMA prays at Lourdes



'Spiritual rearmament'

Support reiterated

Don't rile media ...

CPJ statement

Senate, House probe

Counterbalance against abuse

Barias' wish: Boxing bout with Trillanes

'Mamang Pulis'

Tough cop, gentle cop

JDV: Revolt no cause for alarm

'Show some humility'

He made a fool of himself

Moral revolution











Manobo folk urge stop to AFP drive

SAN FRANCISCO, AGUSAN DEL SUR—THE DISplaced Manobo villagers may spend their Christmas holidays at the cramped and crowded evacuation center in Surigao del Sur as hostilities between government soldiers and New People's Army (NPA) rebels escalated.

Uncertainty

Classes disrupted

Anti-landmine drive by MILF, gov't lauded



KITE FLYING IN BORACAY

Cold weather chills Benguet, but no frost yet

By Desiree Caluza

Inquirer Northern Luzon

Terms of reference

No reports

Cave explorer killed, 5 others rescued in Cebu



HOPES FOR CHRISTMAS

Driver gets 3 life terms for rice theft

2 Misamis prisoners die, 10 others hospitalized after taking concoction

Newly healed lives for survivors of 'Reming'

By Ephraim Aguilar
Inquirer Southern Luzon

Alone

Helping hand

A new chapter

Youngest survivor



PARISHIONERS,

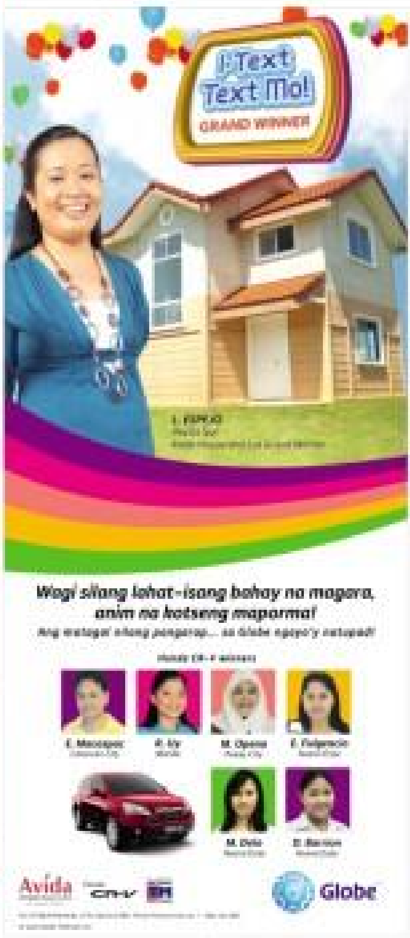
SPORTS

More Sports, including SEA Games, on A29-A32

Magnolia rally turns back TNT







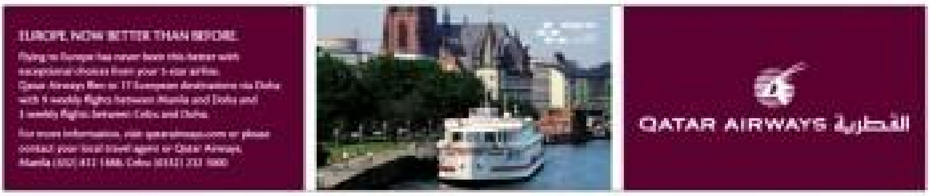
A plus METRO

Dogfight arena in Rizal raided

Navotas warns drunk drivers

DID YOU KNOW







TUNASAN STREETLIGHTS
[illegible]

Uneasy Korean tips off police to drugs in car

By Aliben W. Lopez

[illegible]

MetroBriefs

Thieves break into FEU professor's house

[illegible]

Aliben W. Lopez

Art exhibit ongoing until Dec. 18

[illegible]

Citizen's call

Flesh trade in the open

[illegible]

Extortionist cops

[illegible]

Lights for Malibay overpass, please

[illegible]

Hold that elevator!

[illegible]

House or barangay hall!

[illegible]

Turkey says it attacked Kurdish fighters in Iraq



We are living like the dead, Colombia hostage writes

WorldBriefs

Nano breakthrough in cancer detection

Chinese beauty stands tall as Miss World



The WORLD

World powers seek new Iran sanctions

PARIS—THE SIX POWERS DEALING WITH IRAN'S contested nuclear program will start work on a resolution calling for new sanctions against Iran at the UN Security Council, a French diplomatic source said Saturday after a meeting here.

"The six have agreed to examine the elements of a new resolution on sanctions" against Tehran, said the diplomat, who asked to remain anonymous.

"A compromise text will be worked out and should circulate between the capital cities concerned next week."

The text would be sent to the UN Security Council in New York if the countries manage to agree on the details, the source added.

Tehran is already under two sets of UN sanctions, as well as unilateral US sanctions, for refusing to suspend uranium enrichment.

Representatives of the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany met in Paris on Saturday to discuss Iran's contested nuclear program after last-ditch talks failed to produce a breakthrough.

The European Union's foreign policy chief Javier Solana said he was "disappointed" after the talks in London on Friday with Iranian nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, hours before a deadline for him to report back to world powers on the issue.

"I have to admit that after five hours of meetings I expected more, and therefore I am disappointed," Solana told reporters.

The talks were seen as a last chance for Tehran before a possible new round of sanctions, though hopes of a breakthrough had been slim.

Jalili said Saturday that Iran was not to blame for the disappointment expressed by Solana.

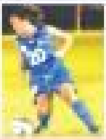
"The fact is that we defended the Iranian nation's rights and stressed fulfilling our duties and that the Iranian nation will not accept anything that goes beyond the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," he said.

"If some people have become disappointed because they cannot deprive Iran of its natural rights then this is another matter," Jalili told reporters after arriving back in Tehran.

Western nations suspect Iran is using its nuclear program to covertly develop a nuclear bomb. Despite Iranian denials, the United States and its allies are pressing for stronger UN sanctions against Tehran, a move resisted by China and Russia. AFP

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Medal finish on the cards for lady booters A30



SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic B. Melendres Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

Rookie captures skeet silver

Golden sweep looms for men











Medal finish on cards for lady booters

BANGKOK—THIS TEAM WILL HAVE A LOT TO PROVE.



ANGELINE [illegible]

Execs' row: A question of credibility

Rookie captures skeet silver

Regular Fil-Am action tees off today

'Why remove the two best bowlers from RP team?'

BARE EYE



Ricardo Trinidad

70 fights in SJC derby today

Sadorra stuns GM Zhang, joins 13-man leaders' tier

PHINMA ITF

Alcantara falls in finals





UST forges Shakey's V-League decider



US finally clinches Davis Cup



Pistons rout weary Bucks

Cebu batters overwhelm Shoemakers; D'guete wins

Intercollegiate golf resumes at Canlubang

BUSINESS

WB unit prods gov't on key reforms

Recommendations to boost RP business climate

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE Corp., a unit of the World Bank tasked to assist in private sector development,

IN THIS ISSUE

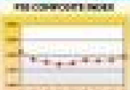
Spanish firm investing $200M in biofuel sector

Currencies



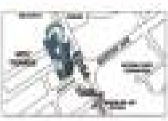
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

Stock Market



Investors seen tracking Wall St.





BSP seen cutting interest rates during Dec. 20 meet

Q3 GDP: slower but stronger?

No Free Lunch



Cielito F. Habito

Slower and weaker

Steady services

Firming investment

Stronger and weaker

Investors seen tracking Wall St.



BUSINESS *Monday*

DAWNING OF 'WHITE-LABELED' ATMS

A place to withdraw money even in remote areas



INFOTECH



Epson CX8300



Epson's latest offerings speed things up further

By Charles E. Buban

FOR IMAGING GIANT Epson, speeding up the printing process is key to any business' efficiency and profit.

[illegible]



Epson V500



Epson CX7300

High volume, high quality output

[illegible]

Supports multiple formats

[illegible]



Focus on photos

[illegible]





PICASA TO PICATODO

Online pictures you can touch

By Riza T. Olchondra

DIGITAL CAMERAS AND CAMERA phones have made taking photos anywhere and anytime a snap, driving the popularity of online web albums.

[illegible]

Know the hero or villain behind famous speeches

"Speeches That Changed History"
By Cambridge ...

EXECUTIVE READ



A great speech does not just capture the truth of its era; it can also capture the big lie

Protection that comes with savings

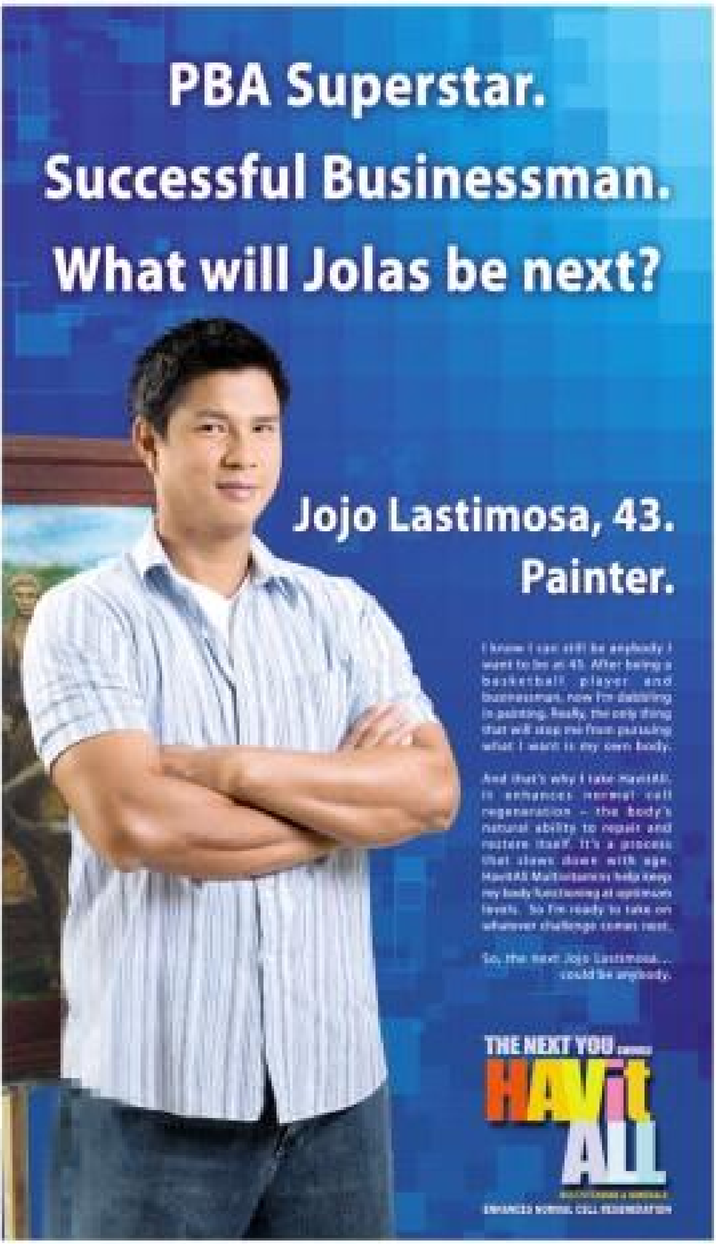
BUSINESS Monday

Use of free technology—an Indian tribe shows us the way

MAPping the Future

Feliciano C. Payumo

While RP is not in the league of US in carbon emission, it is one of the most threatened biodiversity hotspots



BUSINESS Monday

'Planet Me' to help save Planet Earth

Int'l express service firm shows way to reduce CO_2 emission



TNT Philippines' vice president for human resources Cecil Cacas

Text and photos by Nila Catherine Calleja
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA—TNT Express, an international express service company, admits it contributes to the problem of the environment—claiming that the transport industry is generating almost one-fifth of the world's greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide (CO2).

[illegible]

Internal changes

[illegible]

'Planet Me' to help save Planet Earth

From page B4-1



AROUND 30 employees of TNT Philippines plant at least 500 saplings in Mt. Makiling



6 percent in 2011 from the 13.5 kilotons that its 6,500 company cars had emitted in 2006.

Worldwide campaign

Under the Planet Me campaign, TNT works on reducing its dependency on fossil fuels by exploring alternatives like biofuels, electric, hybrids, biogas, and hydrogen-based technologies.

Based on TNT reports, the Mail Division in Amsterdam now uses 16 vehicles on 100-percent rapeseed oil, a type of biofuel that allows for a 50-percent reduction of CO2 emissions.

In India, on the other hand, the TNT Express Division launched a pilot project using biofuel for its delivery vehicles. Three kinds of trucks were tested by trained drivers.

Now, TNT in India has decided to operate 20 more biofuel trucks.

TNT also addresses its aviation's contribution to global warming.

"In 2006, 53 percent of TNT's CO2 emissions were generated by our 44 airplanes. As our business grows, this impact will, too," TNT reports said.

TNT promised to solve this problem by "optimizing our operations to improve the fuel efficiency of our air and ground fleet." It will also collaborate with the aeronautics industry to hasten the development of fuel-efficient technologies and alternative energy sources.

TNT also aims to reduce CO2 emissions from business travel by 20 percent by providing 74 locations with video conferencing facilities.

Because of this, Tandberg, manufacturer of video conferencing systems, gave the first Tandberg Green Award to TNT.

TNT also plans to acquire alternative vehicles but Caron says it will surely entail costs.

She stresses that for the meantime, their company ensures that their vehicles pass the emission tests.

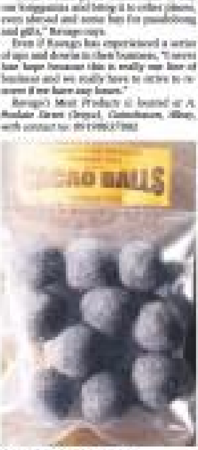
Real estate: It's a big world after all



IP Philippines hosts int'l confab



Albay town also boasts of own longganiza





BUSINESS *Monday*

Albay town also boasts of own *longganiza*





BUSINESS *Monday*

What this local bakeshop did to face competition



Text and photos by Chris V. Panganiban
Inquirer Mindanao

SAN FRANCISCO, AGUSAN del Sur—Twenty years ago, this family-owned bakery and restaurant, which had earned a niche in the local food industry, was [illegible].

But when two bakery companies from out of town started building branches here, Rene Go, owner of Rose Bakeshop, decided to take on the competition.

As branches of national bakery chain Julie's and Davao City-based [illegible] sprouted, Go also expanded her bakery's outlets.

With the help of her now grown-up children, Go, a longtime widow, established 10 branches, including those in neighboring towns and in the cities of [illegible], Butuan, Cagayan de Oro and Valencia in Bukidnon.

In this town alone, where the main branch is located, there are currently four branches.

"We decided to branch out to get a share of the market from our rivals," says Manuelito Go, Rose's only son, who manages three branches of the family business.

He says it was the constant prodding of his sales agent-friends and other business associates that drove them to expand.

With only [illegible] bakers, waiters, waitresses and salesladies in [illegible], Rose Bakeshop now employs more than [illegible] workers.

Go, who admits to adopting the competitors' strategy to grow the bakery's customer base, adds they are now eyeing new branches in Surigao City and possibly expand to the Visayas area next year.

When they started to face the competition, Rose Bakeshop was still using the conventional [illegible].

Go says the management system was still the one of the old type.

Rene Go says she was able to get expert advice under the Canadian Executive Service Organization Business Advisory Program to upgrade their facilities. It was the Department of Trade and Industry which brought her to the program.

Under the program, Go says she learned about operational and financial management systems and helped her with new production technologies.

Her workers also underwent training for two weeks with [illegible] Canadian experts, [illegible] Mukherjee and Surinder Khanna.

The experts trained Go's staff on production, finance, organization and management for two weeks.

Go says the result of the training included the introduction of new products while enhancing the quality of their delicacies with mechanized facilities.

Manuelito admits that the computerization of their financial records, with the help of "Quick Books" software, also helped a lot.

He also notes that opening separate bank accounts for the branches made it easier to track the cash flow, which he says helps in the effective projection of budget and sales.

"We have opened our eyes and saw that there are lots of opportunities to explore to make our business grow," Go says.

Despite the success of the business, Go says she does not fail to tell her children to live a simple lifestyle.

She says she always tells them to avoid flashy cars and expensive homes.

FAÇADE of the main outlet of Rose Bakeshop right in the heart of San Francisco, Agusan del Sur, where the Go family started it all.

UE's 9th mid-year commencement rites set

Look for the red cup for the perfect coffee



Anti-platelet drug may prevent recurrent stroke risk

Metrowalk is now host for dolphin show until January 6

Mr. Softy takes 7 at 2007

Sunblock daily, even during the rains

MOVEMENTS

Jollibee appoints new VP for corporate marketing

Renaissance Makati City Hotel appoints new director

LCF has new board members

Filipino exec gets top post in Asean cement group

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO
PHILIPPINES

PALL MALL EXCISE TAX CLASSIFICATION

The Pall Mall excise tax classification continues to be a matter of public interest. While this is a purely administrative issue that the Department of Finance (DOF) has to resolve, the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee is conducting an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to look into the allegations raised in the media relating to the mid-price classification of Pall Mall. British American Tobacco Philippines (BAT) and its local business partner La Suerte Cigar & Cigarette Factory, welcome the opportunity accorded by the Committee to present its side of the issue.

In the course of the Congress hearings, it has become apparent that a number of the negative allegations were made due to lack of information or misappreciation of the facts and laws relevant to the classification process of new cigarette brands. BAT believes that more clarification on our part is needed for the facts and legality underpinning the issue to stand out, paving the way for a more factual understanding of the entire case.

MINIMUM VOLUME REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT APPLICABLE

The issue was raised of BAT and La Suerte not meeting the minimum volume requirements of commercial production and marketing as defined in Section 2(l) of Revenue Regulations 3-2006.

The fact is that Section 6 of the same Revenue Regulations 3-2006 categorically states that brands introduced between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004 "shall not be subject to the minimum volume requirements for commercial production and marketing" defined in Section 2(l) of Revenue Regulations 3-2006.

Pall Mall was launched in the Philippine domestic market in August 2004. Clearly, it falls within the period where new brands launched are exempt from the application of the minimum volume requirements.

MINIMUM VOLUME REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT FAIR

Subjecting established brands to minimum volume requirements for commercial production and marketing is reasonable. But applying the same conditions to new brands is unfair and offends the constitutional prohibition against unfair competition (Art. XII, Section 19, 1987 Constitution).

New brands require time to build brand awareness and gain consumer acceptance. By subjecting new brands to minimum volume requirements, it effectively stifles competition and acts as a barrier to entry to these new brands while at the same time protecting established brands to the detriment of consumers.

We should all take note of the Tatad case whereby the Supreme Court struck down the minimum inventory required of new entrants in the downstream oil industry for being unconstitutional as it acts as a high barrier to entry for prospective players. The parallel here in relation to the Pall Mall case is extremely striking.

PALL MALL HAS BEEN GAINING CONSUMER ACCEPTANCE

Contrary to certain assertions made, Pall Mall's production volume is more than sufficient to sustain a nationwide distribution, i.e., marketed in all the revenue regions in Metro Manila and in at least 51 percent of all other revenue regions. As a matter of fact, out of the 19 revenue regions in the Philippines, Pall Mall is marketed in 15 revenue regions.

From Pall Mall's initial product launch in August 2004 up to the beginning of 2007, La Suerte produced a total of 1,641 master cases of Pall Mall which, at 500 packs per master case, totals 820,500 packs or 16,410,000 sticks of cigarettes. This shows that Pall Mall has been doing well and steadily gaining consumer acceptance. Had the BIR classified Pall Mall at mid-price, the projected distribution of Pall Mall in 2007 would be in excess of 1,500 cases (total of 15 million sticks of cigarettes).

NO PARALLEL BETWEEN THE PALL MALL AND LUCKY STRIKE CASES

Assertions have been made that BAT's positions in both the Lucky Strike and Pall Mall cases were inconsistent. In particular, asserting that BAT, in the Lucky Strike case, was questioning the constitutionality of Republic Acts 8240 (amended by Republic Act 9334) while in the Pall Mall case, it was seeking refuge under the same law.

To be clear, the issues in both cases are different. Moreover, being separate cases, one does not have a bearing on the other. In the Lucky Strike case, BAT is only questioning Annex D of RA 8240 (as amended by RA 9334) insofar as it discriminates against new brands. What is unconstitutional is not the law per se but the provision thereof that allows existing brands to continue to pay excise tax on the basis of their 1996 retail prices while new brands are made to pay excise tax on the basis of their current retail prices.

Along the same line, assertions have also been made that on the one hand, BAT was questioning the outcome of the price survey that resulted in the reclassification of Lucky Strike and on the other, BAT was asserting that Pall Mall should be classified on the basis of the December 22, 2006 price survey.

To be clear again, in the Lucky Strike case, BAT is not questioning the validity per se of the revenue issuances mandating the conduct of the price survey. BAT is questioning the revenue issuances insofar as they mandated the survey and reclassification of new brands to the exclusion of existing brands. In the name of fairness, BAT has no issue with the price survey conducted in the Lucky Strike case provided a similar survey be conducted on existing brands as well.

WHAT "ANNEX D" MEANS TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

"Annex D" with its time-locked provision unfairly protects existing brands at the expense of new brands, making the playing field uneven and unfair for new players and brands. But what implications does it have on the people of the Philippines?

The fact is that brands in "Annex D" are paying excise based on the excise classification which they obtained on the basis of their retail prices in 1996. However, all these brands are selling at much higher prices now than they were in 1996 when they had their excise classification fixed. If subject to a new price survey, most if not all of them, will be reclassified to higher excise brackets and hence paying higher excise rates. The provision deprives the government of more excise revenue from the existing brands, revenue which could be used to alleviate poverty for instance.

Why should Filipinos be deprived of this additional revenue?

THE DOF HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REVIEW FORMER COMMISSIONER JOSE MARIO C. BUÑAG'S RULING

Some have questioned the DOF's authority to review Commissioner Buñag's ruling. However, it is clear that as a higher government body to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), the DOF has the power of supervision and control over the BIR. Furthermore, the DOF has the power of review over interpretations of the tax laws and regulations under Section 4 of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC). Commissioner Buñag's erroneous ruling involves an interpretation of the laws and regulations. And if upheld, would apply to all taxpayers in similar situations with all its negative implications.

The DOF decision took into consideration the price survey, and correctly and properly interpreted the laws and regulations. The decision reverses Commissioner Buñag's erroneous ruling, affirming the excise classification of Pall Mall as a mid-price brand. In doing so, the DOF not only acted lawfully, properly and correctly, but also acted completely within its jurisdiction.

THE DOF SECRETARY IS AUTHORISED TO DELEGATE TO UNDERSECRETARY GAUDENCIO MENDOZA THE AUTHORITY TO REVIEW COMMISSIONER BUÑAG'S RULING

This should not have been an issue but some have raised the question of whether Undersecretary Mendoza had the authority to sign the DOF decision reversing Commissioner Buñag's ruling or whether the Secretary of Finance had the authority to delegate the authority to review the ruling to Undersecretary Mendoza.

Nowhere in Section 4 of the NIRC does it state that the Secretary of Finance alone may exercise the power to review. Neither does it prohibit the Secretary from validly delegating such review authority to a subordinate officer. Besides, there was a precedent case of such delegation of power to review by a Department Secretary to his Undersecretary which was settled jurisprudence.

Moreover, Administrative Code of 1987 expressly permits a Department Secretary, such as the Secretary of Finance, to delegate authority to officers and employees under the Secretary's direction. As such, Undersecretary Mendoza's authority to sign the DOF decision reversing Commissioner Buñag's ruling should be a non-issue. The fact that the Secretary of Finance himself has not reversed or repudiated that decision adds weight and validity to it.

AN APPEAL FOR A FAIR AND OBJECTIVE RESOLUTION

The facts surrounding Pall Mall's excise classification are laid bare for all to see. We appeal to all to judge the case objectively, fairly and on the basis of the facts and its legal merits. It is very clear that Pall Mall's P6.74 mid-price excise classification is legally sound and affirmed by DOF's lawful and proper decision classifying it as such.

We remain hopeful for a quick and fair resolution to the matter so that there is certainty for us to expand our business in the Philippines, create jobs and pay our fair share of tax.

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Philippine PEN marks golden anniversary /D1

LIFESTYLE
Editor Chito Baraza Forbes · Sunday Editor Lito B. Zulueta

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS ■ TUESDAY FITNESS ■ WEDNESDAY 2BU ■ THURSDAY FOOD ■ FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY



"PLAYLAND"



"SYMBOLS"

Farley del Rosario in Singapore

YOUNG ARTIST Farley del Rosario mounted a successful exhibit of his very popular works in Singapore's Utterly Art gallery.

In "Wonderland," Del Rosario reveals a beguiling fantasy world populated by the artist's manic balloon-headed children, with rubbery limbs and expressions of wide-eyed amazement.

The exhibition showcases the artist's well-known childhood-inspired works populating a universe of [illegible] [illegible] where Lilliputian characters [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible].

Bright colors and tickly pa[illegible]

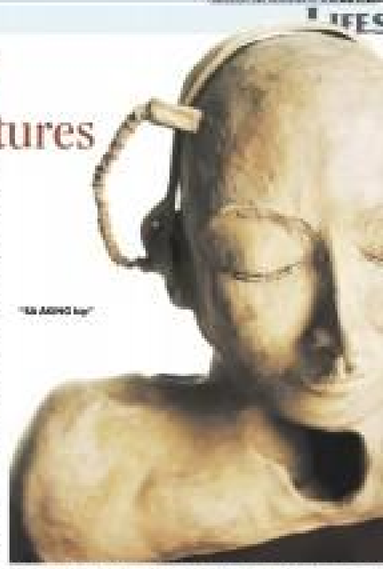
FARLEY/E2



Varona's highly personal sculptures



THE ARTIST with [illegible]



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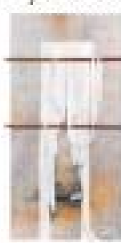
Difficulties

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Anna de Leon's 'Beyond Comprehension'



"B.C.IX"



"B.C.I"

[illegible]



"B.C.II"



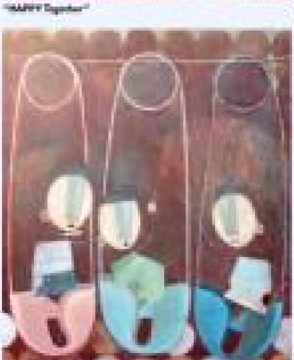
"B.C.VI"

Farley del Rosario . . .

From page [illegible]



"HAPPY Together"



"SAFETY Pin"

[illegible]





"THREE Scoops, Three Scoops" series



"PRETTY Line"



WITH CONSUL General [illegible]



FARLEY with Singaporean collector





'Abstract Emeralds' to cap Orlina's 2007







"MOTHER & Child in Prosperity"



















THE FILIPINO master's work ranges from landscapes to still lifes.



"NEW York"

Rare Alcuaz works in Singapore show

RARE WORKS FROM the artist's early period will be on exhibit in "Federico Aguilar Alcuaz," the first-anniversary show of Galerie Joaquin Singapore.

The show opens Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. and includes 15 oil-on-canvas works and 14 works in mixed media or watercolor.

The artworks are sourced from collectors in Europe and from the artist's family, these being some of the best from his oeuvre. Several of them cover the period from the mid-'60s to the late '70s, the period when some of his most exciting works were produced.

The show is made more timely with the unprecedented record prices received by Alcuaz in the recent Sotheby's Singapore and Christie's Hong Kong auctions.

Alcuaz's "Tres Marias" sold at S$837,000 or P1,490,000, or nine times above the minimum estimate. "Still Life with Landscape" sold at five times its minimum estimate at S$112,500 or P818,750.

Included in the show is the 31½" x 39½" oil-on-canvas piece "Still Life with Cup and Lemons" as well as the 30" x 24½" painting "Still Life with Lemons, Berries and Jars."

There is also the 23½" x 28½" 1976 work titled "Evening View from the Artist's Window."



"STILL Life with Cup and Lemons"



"EVENING View from the Artist's Window"

There are several that are book pieces, having been featured in the definitive book on Alcuaz, "Parallel Texts," by Rod Paras-Perez. Featured are rare watercolor pieces such as "Manila 1958" and "Manila 1958" II as well as paintings on Wiesbaden, Germany.

Galerie Joaquin Singapore is at The Regent of Singapore, 1 Cuscaden Road, G/F, Unit 3, Singapore 249715. Call 65-67353123 or 65-65883111. Visit www.galeriejoaquin.com.sg.

Born on June 6, 1932, in Manila, Alcuaz first broke into the public's notice when he won the first prize in the Annual Shell Competition and second prize in the UP Annual Art Competition in 1954.

In 1955, he received a scholarship grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain to study at Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando in Madrid.

He first based himself in Madrid, then in Barcelona. In Europe, he received numerous awards, such as first prize at the Premio Montcada (1957); the Prix Francisco Goya (1958) in Barcelona; first prize at the Primera Bienal del Mar in Spain (1961); and second prize at the Premio Vidriell at the Fourth Biennial of Tarrasa in Barcelona in 1964.

In Paris, he was awarded the Diploma of Honor in the International Exhibition of Art Libre in 1961; the Decoration of Arts, Letters and Sciences award from the French government (1963); and the Order of French Genius in 1964.

In 2007, President Macapagal-Arroyo gave him the Presidential Medal of Merit for outstanding accomplishment in the visual arts.

In his 55-year career, Alcuaz has exhibited in leading galleries in Spain, Portugal, Poland, the United States and Germany.



'Automatic' works by Turalba

JOSEPHINE TURALBA, an award-winning jewelry designer and Paris-trained artist, recently held her one-woman exhibit at Mount Malarayat Golf & Country Club in Lipa, Batangas.

Turalba's paintings, characterized by vigorous strokes, techniques that evoke energy and movement, and the self-assured use of bold contrasting colors, reflect expression in style.

The artist calls her technique "automatic," a visual representation of her psyche and subconscious.

Among her interests is the sea with its myriad colors and movements.

While most artists choose to contain to canvas this body of water as a serene and placid realm, Turalba opts to interpret the dynamic movement of the crashing of waves, the ripple and surge of the sand.

"The sea is never still, even if sometimes it looks peaceful," she says.



LifeStyle



Hundreds of writers from across the nation will gather in Manila Dec. 8-9 to toast 50 years of the Philippine Center of the International PEN

Golden PEN

THE PHILIPPINE CENTER of International PEN will mark its 50th year with a two-day national conference Dec. 8-9 at the National Museum of the Philippines. The conference theme is "Literature, Nation, Globalization."

The Philippine PEN (Poets, Playwrights, Essayists, Novelists) is one of 149 autonomous PEN centers in 120 countries. It was organized in 1957 with Alfredo Morales as its first chair, and F. Sionil José, the founder, as its first [illegible].

GOLDEN D3

PEN's mighty achievements



Writer Susie L. Tan

The Philippine PEN center has always been steadfast in championing the rights and freedom of expression for oppressed writers in the country. It has also done a lot in promoting anthologies among writers of different ethnic languages and cultures in our country through its annual national conferences and publications. Its representation and involvement in activities of the International PEN is instrumental in promoting Philippine literature to the world.



Poet-teacher Marjorie Evasco

The PEN Philippines chapter has consolidated the good company volunteered by its writers-members to grow in the last 50 years

PEN'S D3





The PEN Charter

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3 [illegible]

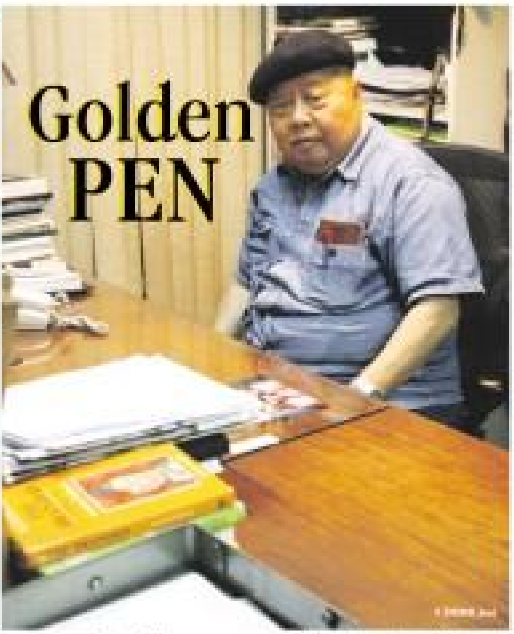
4 [illegible]

5 [illegible]

50th Philippine PEN Congress program

[illegible]

Golden PEN



[illegible]

PEN's mighty achievements

[illegible]

World-acclaimed guitarist
in post-mutiny concert tomorrow





'Romeo and Juliet' from Gantimpala Theater

GANTIMPALA THEATER CAPS ITS PEARL anniversary celebration with William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" starting Dec. 7, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., at the AFP Theater, QC.

"Romeo and Juliet" is the perfect play to round up Gantimpala Theater's 30th season. "It has all the elements that our student audiences will surely appreciate—drama, family feud, romance, a lot of kissing scenes and fencing sequences, and I have a wonderful cast of very talented and gifted actors who are giving their 100 percent to make sure that this production will turn out to be a truly unforgettable theater experience for anyone who will view it," says artistic director Tony E. Espejo.

Giving life to the Montague family are Lance Raymundo (Romeo), Pamela Haridano (Lady Montague), Jeffrey Gonzaga (Lord Montague), Benbol Consolag (Mercutio) and Rye del Rosario (Benvolio), while Monica Llamas (Juliet), Kimberly Sy (Lady Capulet), Gie Abiñas (Lord Capulet) and Miguel Vasquez (Tybalt) play the Capulets.

Also in the cast are Rodjo Pascua (Friar Lawrence), Michiko Unso (Nurse), Adan Da Silva (Prince Escalus), Raymond Talavera (Balthasar), Kristian Chua (Benvolio), John Paulo Garcia (Peter) and Francis Ong (Paris).

The artistic and production team includes Jiory Nandarra (lights designer), Redulah Valle (production designer), Albert Figueroa (costume designer), Angie Patoquin (choreographer), Glenda Abila (stage manager) and Mon Radler (production manager).

Performances are on Dec. 8-9 (10 a.m. and 2 p.m., AFP Theater in QC), Dec. 14-15 (SM Southmall Cinema 6, in Las Piñas City). Shows will resume in 2008, starting Jan. 11-12 (also at the AFP Theater) and Feb. 13-14 (Teatrino in Greenhills, San Juan).

Call 8090741, 8963503, 3280803 or 0921-5286598. E-mail gantimpalaproductions@yahoo.com.ph.

KIMBERLY Sia (Lady Capulet), Gie Abiñas (Lord Capulet) and Monica Llamas (Juliet)





"THE NUTCRACKER" is [illegible]

Ballet Manila mounts 'Pinocchio' and 'Nutcracker' for Christmas

"BUT I WANT TO BE A BOY! I WANT TO be a boy!" said the marionette as he wished upon a star ... And true enough, his wooden limbs became flesh and blood! Thus began Pinocchio's great adventure.

This holiday season, Ballet Manila gives life to this beloved fairytale in "Pinocchio," which goes onstage Dec. 7-9 and 14-16 at the Aliw Theater in Star City.

Featuring the dynamic young dancers of Ballet Manila, "Pinocchio" will be top-billed by Alvin Santos, alternating with Rudmarda Ma. Dibdib; in the cast are [illegible] and [illegible] (Jiminy Cricket), Jonathan Janolo (Geppetto), Eetz Costes and Eileen Lopez (Blue Fairy), Francis Cantallo and Harold Salgado (the Fox), Sarah Abigail Cruz and Rez Castañeda (the Cat), Alonzo Velasquez (Stromboli), and the entire Ballet Manila company of dancers, apprentices and scholars. Choreography is by BM artistic associate Osias Barroso.

Meanwhile, to open the evening's program, BM artistic director Lisa Macuja leads the cast in another Barroso creation, "Sonata," which had its world premiere at the recent "Music, Trio, Magic" concert with London-based pianist Olga Sroubek and violinist Robert Atchison.

Commissioned to celebrate the birth centennial of composer Edward Elgar, the "Sonata" repertoire features Macuja with partner Rudy de Dios and the BM company, in an astounding display of grace, flexibility and precision. Choreographed to the music of Edward Elgar's Sonata in E minor Opus 82 for Violin and Piano, "Sonata" signals Osias Barroso's evolution from dancer and teacher to one of the most promising classical choreographers of his generation.

Going back-to-back with Pinocchio is an added family treat this Yuletide season. Repeat performances of "The Nutcracker" in Star Theater on Dec. 11-13, 3 p.m., will tell the story of a little girl who goes beyond physical appearance and falls in love with a nutcracker doll on Christmas Eve. "Two theaters, two ballets, two magical tales transformed into dance—why hold back on the fun and spectacle?" Prima artistic director Lisa Macuja sums up Ballet Manila's Christmas extravaganza.

For a holiday experience that will linger for the rest of your life, bring the entire family to Ballet Manila's "Pinocchio," live onstage Dec. 7-9 and 14-16 at the Aliw Theater; and "The Nutcracker" at the Star Theater, Star City complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Call 5253467 and 4088302.



PRIMA Ballerina Lisa Macuja-Elizalde in Ballet Manila's "Nutcracker"





DULAANG Sibol [illegible]

THIS DECEMBER, THE PHILIPPINE EDUcational Theater Association-Metropolitan Teen Theater League (MTTL) takes the youth forward with the Dula Dulaan 2007 Youth Theater Festival.

Titled "Kabataan Ganung: A Generation Its Route to a New Path of Meaningful Expression," the festival will host more than 12 groups, hundreds of audiences and participants from the MTTL's network of school and community-based theater groups. From Dec. 7-9, the Peta Theater Center comes alive with workshops, fora, exhibits, conferences, performances, and an arts and crafts fair.

The Dula Dulaan is held every other year. This time, the Peta-MTTL takes on the meeting school, taking the festival on a joyride of learning and experience. Each visiting group gets to showcase its craft and vehicle of expression in the three-day event.

The festival begins with an opening parade on Dec. 7 and ends with a concert on the eve of Dec. 9, featuring some of the hottest bands today. It will also feature a three-day bazaar with booths offering paintings, accessories, books, music CDs, even bargain clothes, fashion art, coffee and pastry.

The Peta-MTTL is supported by the Church Development Service of Germany. Call 7256244, 4150821, 0918-9204166, or e-mail petamttl@yahoo.com.



ENTERTAINMENT

INSIDE

Da King & Ate Vi

Vilma Santos remembers FPJ as screen hero, icon, leading man ... and swimming instructor

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Jim Cielo Pomulan



ON THE SET OF "ALAY KAY Da King," a new TV special on the life and times of Action King Fernando Poe Jr., segment host and "Star for All Seasons" Vilma Santos reminisces about her favorite leading man.

TAKE FIVE

Pinoys win top Asian TV awards

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

FILIPINOS FROM both sides of the network wars won in major categories at the 12th Asian Television Awards, held at the Suntec International Convention Centre in Singapore on Thursday.

Current affairs

The GMA 7 documentary show, "Reporter's Notebook," topped the Best Current Affairs Program category for its coverage of the war in Lebanon. It bested entries from Korea, Singapore and Taiwan.

"Reporter's Notebook" is hosted by news reporters Maki Pulido and Jiggy Manicad.

Team effort

Manicad, who also produced the winning episode, told the Inquirer via SMS: "[It] is a team effort. The feeling [of winning] is great and humbling at the same time."

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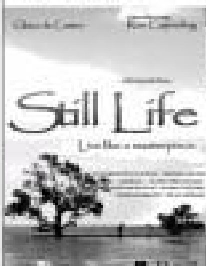
GALLERIA

1 HITMAN - THX
6 ENCHANTED
2 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM
7 PASUKOB
3 FRED CLAUS
8 ANIMATION FESTIVAL
4 GAME PLAN
9 ONE MORE CHANCE
5 THE KINGDOM
10 BEOWULF

ERMITA

1 PASUKOB
6 ONE MORE CHANCE
2 indieSine: STILL LIFE
7 BEOWULF
3 BOOGEYMAN 2
1 FRED CLAUS
4 HITMAN
2 THE KINGDOM
5 ENCHANTED
3 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM

a film by Katski Flores



Still Life

watch this only at Robinsons Movieworld ERMITA NOVEMBER 28 to DECEMBER 04

METRO EAST

1 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM
5 BEOWULF
2 PASUKOB
6 THE KINGDOM
3 ONE MORE CHANCE
7 HITMAN
4 FRED CLAUS
8 ENCHANTED

NOVALICHES

1 THE KINGDOM
2 PASUKOB
3 ENCHANTED
4 ONE MORE CHANCE
5 FRED CLAUS
6 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM

PIONEER

1 MR. MAGORIUM's WONDER EMPORIUM
2 THE KINGDOM
3 PASUKOB
4 ENCHANTED

STA. ROSA

1 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM
2 ONE MORE CHANCE
3 ENCHANTED
4 PASUKOB

LIPA

1 BEOWULF
2 PASUKOB
3 ENCHANTED
4 ONE MORE CHANCE

DASMARIÑAS

1 ENCHANTED
2 THE KINGDOM
3 ONE MORE CHANCE
4 PASUKOB
5 FRED CLAUS

IMUS

1 FRED CLAUS
2 THE KINGDOM
3 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM
4 PASUKOB
5 ONE MORE CHANCE

ANGELES

1 LIONS FOR LAMBS
2 PASUKOB
3 ONE MORE CHANCE
4 ENCHANTED

TARLAC

1 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
3 RENDITION

STARMILLS

1 ENCHANTED
2 HITMAN
3 ONE MORE CHANCE
4 PASUKOB
5 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM
6 LIONS FOR LAMBS

BACOLOD

1 30 DAYS OF NIGHT
2 ONE MORE CHANCE
3 indieSine: IBANTS
4 PASUKOB
5 ENCHANTED
6 Beowulf

ILOILO

1 30 DAYS OF NIGHT
2 ONE MORE CHANCE
3 PASUKOB
4 LIONS FOR LAMBS
5 ENCHANTED
6 BEOWULF

NOW SHOWING

Pinoys win top Asian . . .

Best news program

Acting trophy

Same director







GINA Pareño



At the Cinemas

Cinema	Screens
GLORIETTA 1	1 BEOWULF; 2 THE KINGDOM; 3 [illegible]; 4 ONE MORE CHANCE
GLORIETTA 4	1 ENCHANTED; 2 HITMAN; 3 THE KINGDOM; 4 [illegible]; 5 FRED CLAUS; 6 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM; 7 ONE MORE CHANCE
GREENBELT 1	1 [illegible]; 2 THE KINGDOM
GREENBELT 3	1 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM; 2 THE KINGDOM; 3 [illegible]; 4 FRED CLAUS; 5 ENCHANTED
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THE KINGDOM; 2 FRED CLAUS; 3 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM; 4 [illegible]; 5 ENCHANTED
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 THE KINGDOM; 2 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM; 3 ENCHANTED; 4 [illegible]
MARKET! MARKET!	1 [illegible]; 2 FRED CLAUS; 3 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM; 4 THE KINGDOM; 5 ONE MORE CHANCE
TRINOMA	1 [illegible]; 2 ONE MORE CHANCE; 3 MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM; 4 FRED CLAUS; 5 HITMAN; 6 ENCHANTED; 7 THE KINGDOM

At the Malls

Ayala Malls

Mall	Event
Glorietta	[illegible]
Greenbelt	[illegible]
Alabang Town Center	[illegible]
Ayala Center Cebu	[illegible]
Market! Market!	[illegible]
Cinemalaya	[illegible]
Ayala Museum	[illegible]
TriNoma	[illegible]

Da King & Ate Vi



> 'He was sensitive, the most generous man in the entire industry. Of all my leading men, no one's like him'

ENTERTAINMENT



Vertical Horizon plus new Rivermaya



By Pocholo Concepcion

A DOUBLE-HEADER CONcert with a Hollywood stand-up comedian as front act, is MTV Philippines' forthcoming (Dec. 7) major event at the Araneta Coliseum.

The gig features Vertical Horizon, a U.S.-based alternative rock band popular with the 20-something generation, plus a special performance by Rivermaya with its new vocalist, Jason Fernandez. Hollywood actor-stand-up comic Jamie Kennedy, who has his own MTV show ("The Jamie Kennedy Experiment"), opens the show.

Formed in 1990 by Georgetown University (Washington D.C.) schoolmates Matthew Scannell and Keith Kane, Vertical Horizon played regular gigs and released three self-produced albums before being signed to Sony BMG's RCA label.



JAMIE Kennedy

In 1999, the band's major-label debut, "Everything You Want," went platinum. The title track made a big impression on many young Pinoys. "You're a God," another song off the same album, was in the soundtrack of the Jim Carrey movie "Bruce Almighty."

But the momentum was cut short when

VERTICAL/F5

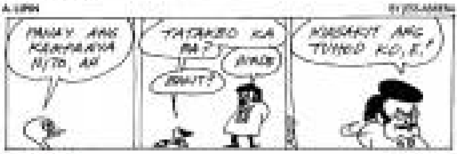
A drama novela by CARLO J. CAPARAS

To have and to hold

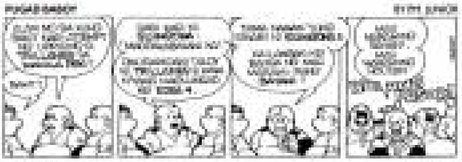
Art: ARNEL A. AVETRIA



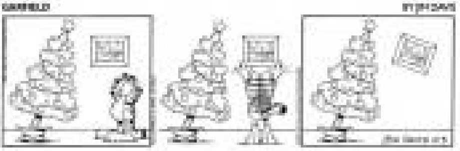
A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



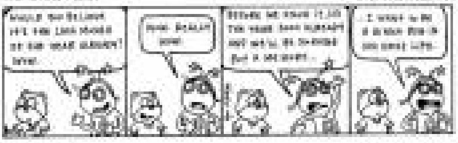
GARFIELD



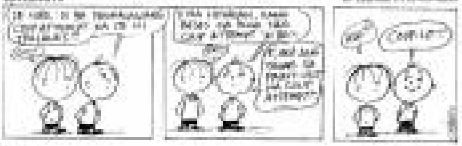
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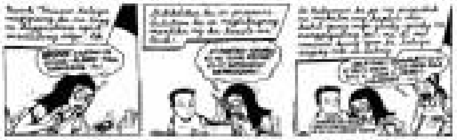
ATOMO AND WENDY



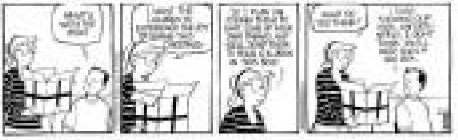
LOVE KNOTS



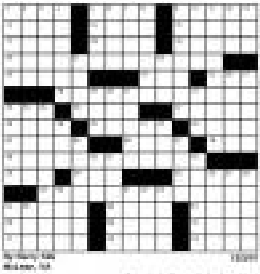
KIKO MACHINE



BEN



DAILY CROSSWORD



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

				1			2	
		1	8		7			4
	9		5	2				
	6	2		9			1	
3		8	7		6	9		2
	7			8		6	5	
				6	5		3	
4			2		1	8		
	5			4				

Difficulty Level ★

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and programs at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

9	1	6	8	7	4	2	3	5
5	4	2	1	9	3	8	7	6
8	7	3	6	5	2	1	9	4
6	2	8	5	4	9	3	1	7
4	3	5	7	2	1	9	6	8
1	9	7	3	6	8	4	5	2
3	5	1	2	8	7	6	4	9
2	6	9	4	1	5	7	8	3
7	8	4	9	3	6	5	2	1



Vertical Horizon plus …

Big buzz

Not clear

Confidence

Cesar Montano's art attack


DOLLY WOOD
Dolly Anne Carvajal

Sara sings

Sequel

Man mars

'Break the Bank' a model format




PETER Sellers with Claudia Cardinale in "The Pink Panther"

Free Christmas gifts

Success secrets

Saving the planet

Comedy classics

'Miya' on Q-11



'Tirador' UP preem set tonight

Exporters urged to use ₱250-M promotional fund

Only ₱30M tapped so far

3 Travel Cafe outlets to open in Manila

Gov't seen raising ₱6B from PNOC-EC stake sale

Some shares to be sold to public, others to 'cornerstone investor'

By Abigail L. Ho

N. Mindanao eyes 25% rise in bangus output



Forex inflows likely to sustain 10% growth

By Doris C. Dumlao

GSIS nets ₱35B from Jan to Sept

Pension fund's earnings up 20% from last year's ₱29.2B

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson



GARCIA

RP officials bent on pushing debt talks with China

By Michelle V. Remo

Mindanao seen to be ideal for biodiesel component

By Abigail L. Ho



ALL SMILES

PSALM still optimistic it can meet 50% privatization target for 2007

By Abigail L. Ho

Spanish firm investing ...

From page B1

WB unit prods gov't ...

From page B1

Nomura ups RP growth forecast

2008 big year for mobile TV, telcos say

'Pinoy biotek' goods now ready for sale

Winthrop generics launched



Sultan Energy secures 25-year coal supply deal

By Abigail L. Ho

[illegible]

Generali Pilipinas nets ₱1.95B in premiums

[illegible]


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